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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 22 November 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

Since we addressed to you our most recent letter concerning Israeli outrages and practices in southern Lebanon, that dated 1 November 1991 and circulated in document A/46/611-S/23192, the Israeli occupation forces have been shelling densely populated villages and towns with heavy artillery. This has created a distressing and inflammable situation in southern Lebanon and the western Bekaa in which there are a number of civilian dead and wounded on a daily basis, and it has led to the displacement of tens of thousands of Lebanese from their homes to safer areas and to heavy damage to buildings and property. On 15 November 1991, a crime was perpetrated by Israeli forces in the town of Zebquine in which three children lost their lives. Then, at 12.45 a.m. on Wednesday, 20 November, Israeli forces advanced to the town of Majdel Salem, breaking through the positions of the Irish contingent of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, and there blew up homes belonging to two citizens, Mamoon Yassine and Mohamed Haidar Zahweh, and opened heavy fire in all directions causing the death of the nine-year old son of the first named and wounding five of the inhabitants. They then abducted Mamoon Yassine, his three children and his brother and took them inside the so-called "security zone".

The Lebanese Government, in notifying you of these inhuman outrages and practices, calls upon the Security Council and the international community expeditiously to adopt a resolute position in order to deter the Israeli Government from pursuing a hostile policy that is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations and international law and which subjects Lebanon's sovereignty and the lives and security of its citizens to daily

violations, particularly at a time when strenuous efforts are being made to achieve a solution to the Middle East problem by means of the peace conference.

The ongoing Israeli outrages have, at the same time, the goal of neutralizing the desire of the Lebanese Government and obstructing its plans for the normalization of the situation in all parts of Lebanon and the achievement of security and stability through the use of its lawful agencies.

The Lebanese Government, confronted by this situation, reserves its right to call for a meeting of the Security Council at any time that it may deem appropriate in order to consider the constant Israeli military escalation in southern Lebanon and the threat that it constitutes to security and peace in the Middle East region and in the world.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalil MAKKAWI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative